

REMARKS

The Non-Final Office Action mailed August 20, 2007 considered claims 23-30, 35, and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayton et al. (US 7,051,084) hereinafter *Hayton*. Claims 31, 32, 33, and 34, were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.¹

By this paper, claims 23, 35 and 36 have been amended². Claims 24-36 remain pending in the application, of which, only claims 23, 35, and 36 are independent claims.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephonic interview held November 14, 2007, and the additional communications on January 10, 2008. Details of that interview and communications are included herein below.

Rejections Under 35 USC 112

The Office Action rejected claims 23 and 36 stating that "claims 23 and 36 recite the limitation 'the visual properties'" and that "there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim." Claims 23 and 36 have been amended such that in any case, the rejection should be obviated.

Rejections Under 35 USC 103

Each of the claims was rejected under 35 USC 103 in view of *Hayton*. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections under 35 USC 103. Nonetheless, applicant has amended the claims to more fully clarify what is claimed.

The claims are generally directed to decorative panels which are displayed by using cells of software tables. The tables have attributes for the individual cells specified such that cells of software tables visually correspond to regions of the decorative panels and appear as a cohesive unit forming at least a portion of the decorative panels. To prevent a designer from having to

¹ Although the prior art status of the cited art is not being challenged at this time, Applicant reserves the right to challenge the prior art status of the cited art at any appropriate time, should it arise. Accordingly, any arguments and amendments made herein should not be construed as acquiescing to any prior art status of the cited art.

² Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, but with particularity at least at page 10, lines 5-27.

manually update each individual cell when changing the appearance of a decorative panel, methods of and systems for automatically updating attributes in individual cells to change the appearance of a decorative panel are claimed. For example, claim 1 recites displaying a decorative panel by displaying cells of a software table, where cells of the software table spatially correspond to spatial regions of the decorative panel, and wherein displaying a software table is performed such that cells of the software table are displayed as a single unit forming at least a portion of the decorative panel, by displaying cell with at least one of attributes specified for a cell, or images in cells displayed to form a single unit. User input is received specifying a change in the appearance of the decorative panel. Changes in the appearance of the decorative panel are mapped to cells in the software table. At least one of attributes of cells or images in cells are automatically revised, without a user needing to manipulate individual cells, to correspond to the changes in the appearance of the decorative panel..

The Examiner's attention is directed to Figures 3A and 3B of the present application for an illustration of one example of how one embodiment may be realized.

Hayton is generally directed to regenerating portions of a page that have changed and only transmitting those portions to a client for display. See *Hayton* at Abstract. This is performed by associating a portion of a page with a fragment of code and executing the fragment to regenerate the portion of the page. *Id.*

The claims of the present application each recite "cells of the software table are displayed as a single unit forming at least a portion of the decorative panel...." Further, the claims recite that "cells of the software table spatially correspond to spatial regions of the decorative panel...." The Office Action admits at page 3 of the Office Action that *Hayton* "fails to explicitly state decorative panels...." The Office Action states that separate but related portions of *Hayton* suggest a similar means of creating a decorative panel. *Id.* However, the portions of *Hayton* cited for showing separate but related portions only appear to show generic portions of a generated page. See *e.g.* generated page 240 in Figure 2b of *Hayton*. There is no suggestion that these generic portions are made up of cells of a software table that are "displayed as a single unit forming at least a portion of the decorative panel" as is recited by the claims of the present application.

Further, while *Hayton* does indeed illustrate that a table is created and displayed in a webpage (See *Hayton* at col. 8, lines 14-17), *Hayton* does not teach or suggest that cells of this

displayed table are used in creating a decorative panel by displaying elements in the cells of the software table as a cohesive unit forming at least a portion of a decorative panel, as is recited by the claims. Any changes to the displayed table appear to only update informative data and not the decorative nature of the displayed table. For example, *Hayton* at col. 11, lines 15-21 appear to show that updates to the displayed table update headers and price information. Further, at col. 21, line 47, *Hayton* indicates that the displayed table is only used for showing stock prices. However, *Hayton* appears to be silent with respect updating the displayed table to change the appearance of a decorative panel.

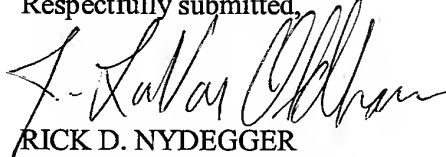
Additionally, for showing the element of mapping changes in the appearance of the visual properties of the decorative panel to cells in the software table, the Office Action cites portions of *Hayton* (col. 14, line 45 through col. 15 line 67) which appear to show something quite different. In particular, while Figures 7 and 8 and the referenced portions of *Hayton* do appear to show a table 345, and that the table is used for a mapping function, the table does not appear to be one that is displayed, but appears only to store current values which represent a portion of a page that an execution code fragment generates. See *Hayton* at col. 14, lines 55-60. Thus, the cells of the table 345 do not "spatially correspond to spatial regions of the decorative panel" as is now recited by the claims of the present application.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the other rejections to the claims are now moot and do not, therefore, need to be addressed individually at this time. It will be appreciated, however, that this should not be construed as Applicant acquiescing to any of the purported teachings or assertions made in the last action regarding the cited art or the pending application, including any official notice. Instead, Applicant reserves the right to challenge any of the purported teachings or assertions made in the last action at any appropriate time in the future, should the need arise. Furthermore, to the extent that the Examiner has relied on any Official Notice, explicitly or implicitly, Applicant specifically requests that the Examiner provide references supporting the teachings officially noticed, as well as the required motivation or suggestion to combine the relied upon notice with the other art of record.

In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at 801-533-9800.

Dated this 11th day of January, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick D. Nydegger", written over the typed name.

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